

Message Text

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56

ACTION VOE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 SCA-01 INSE-00 L-03 H-02 DHA-02

ORM-02 /020 W

----- 020401

R 240826Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 679

UNCLAS MANILA 18006

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CVIS, RP

SUBJ: INFORMATION ON AMENDMENT OF ELIGIBLE ORPHAN PROVISION

1. THE EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAS SIGNED A BILL AMENDING SECTION 101(B)(1)(F) INA TO PERMIT ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO ORPHANS BEING ADOPTED BY SINGLE US CITIZENS. "PACIFIC STARS AND STRIPES" CARRIED THE STORY 20 DEC AND INS/CO INFORMED INS MANILA ON 22 DEC.

2. OUR CONSULAR SECTION HAD A RECENT CASE IN WHICH AN AMCIT SERVICEMAN, ASSIGNED HERE, HAD TAKEN A FOUR-YEAR OLD FILIPINO BOY INTO HIS HOME AND BEGUN ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS. CHILD WAS DEFINABLE AS ELIGIBLE ORPHAN EXCEPT THAT ADOPTIVE FATHER WAS SINGLE. SERVICEMAN COULD NOT DELAY REASSIGNMENT LONG ENOUGH TO COMPLY WITH TWO-YEAR REQUIREMENT FOR ADOPTION UNDER SUBSECTION (E), AND DEPARTED FOR US 18 DEC -- AS IT TURNS OUT, DAY AFTER AMENDING BILL WAS SIGNED BY PRESIDENT. DENIAL OF VISA TO CHILD WAS DIFFICULT TASK FOR CONOFFS AND HEART-BREAKING FOR SERVICEMAN AND CHILD. IF IMPENDING AMENDMENT HAD BEEN KNOWN, REASSIGNMENT MIGHT HAVE BEEN PUT OFF LONG ENOUGH TO GET CHILD ELIGIBLE ORPHAN PETITION AND VISA.

3. IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY HELPFUL TO CONOFFS, AND THE AMCITS AND OTHER PUBLIC THEY TRY TO SERVE, IF TOPICAL INFO COULD BE DISSEMINATED ON STATUS OF IMPENDING LEGISLATION OF THIS TYPE. WE WERE AWARE, THRU USIS TICKER, THAT LEGISLATION HAD PASSED ONE HOUSE OF CONGRESS AND GONE TO COMMITTEE OF OTHER HOUSE.

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WE WERE UNAWARE OF PASSAGE AND, AS DESCRIBED ABOVE, OF SIGNATURE

INTO LAW.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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